

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double brackets indicating deletions.

Listing of the Claims

1. (Current Amended) A method of provisioning distribution channels in a communications network, comprising:
receiving, at a remote provisioning control site, a subscriber provisioning selection via a subscriber accessible provisioning terminal; ~~and~~
determining, at the remote provisioning control site, whether the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable;
sending an acknowledgment to the subscriber accessible provisioning terminal if the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable;
sending an error signal to the subscriber accessible provisioning terminal if the subscriber provisioning selection is not acceptable; and
selectively changing an allocation of distribution channels for a plurality of drop-points in accordance with said the subscriber provisioning selection if the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable.
2. (Previously Submitted) The invention as defined in claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting said subscriber provisioning selection to the remote provisioning control site.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The invention as defined in claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein said subscriber terminal requests a different subscriber provisioning selection upon receiving an error signal from said remote provisioning control site.

5. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1, further comprising:
confirming subscriber authorization for changing an allocation of distribution channels.
6. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1, wherein said plurality of distribution channels are time division multiplexed, and said step of selectively changing distribution channel allocation changes cross-connections of a time slot interchange unit.
7. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1, wherein said plurality of distribution channels are provided by a high-bandwidth transmission line.
8. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 7, wherein said high-bandwidth transmission line is a T1 line, and said plurality of distribution channels are time-division multiplexed on said T1 line.
9. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1, wherein said subscriber site is a distant terminal in a digital loop carrier system.
10. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 2, wherein said remote provisioning control site is a remote terminal in a digital loop carrier system.
11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for provisioning distribution channels in a communications network, comprising:
means for receiving a subscriber provisioning selection at a remote provisioning control site via a subscriber accessible provisioning terminal of a subscriber site where a plurality of distribution channels are allocated to a plurality of drop-points;
means for determining, at the remote provisioning control site, whether the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable;
means for sending an acknowledgment to the subscriber accessible provisioning terminal if the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable;

means for sending an error signal to the subscriber accessible provisioning terminal if the subscriber provisioning selection is not acceptable; and

means for selectively changing an allocation of distribution channels for said plurality of drop-points in accordance with ~~said~~ the subscriber provisioning selection if the subscriber provisioning selection is acceptable.

12. (Previously Submitted) The invention as defined in claim 11, further comprising:
means for transmitting said subscriber provisioning selection to the remote provisioning control site.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The invention as defined in claim 11 ~~13~~, wherein said means for receiving requests a different subscriber provisioning selection upon receiving an error signal from said remote provisioning control site.

15. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11, further comprising:
means for confirming subscriber authorization for changing an allocation of distribution channels.

16. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11, wherein said plurality of distribution channels are time division multiplexed, and said means for selectively changing distribution channel allocation changes cross-connections of a time slot interchange unit.

17. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11, wherein said plurality of distribution channels are provided by a high-bandwidth transmission line.

18. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 17, wherein said high-bandwidth transmission line is a T1 line, and said plurality of distribution channels are time-division multiplexed on said T1 line.

19. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11, wherein said subscriber site is a distant terminal in a digital loop carrier system.

20. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 12, wherein said remote provisioning control site is a remote terminal in a digital loop carrier system.